



ACT JeepTrAction Newsletter
Edition 17 — November 2015

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THE “CHEAP CHEROKEE” CAPE YORK ADVENTURE



BATHURST 1000 - DRIVERS PARADE LAP IN JEEPS!





Presidents note...



Hi all, with the end of the year approaching us, now is a good time to put on our thinking caps & reflect over all the events, trips & happenings we have participated in this year as a club. Why? Because at our November meeting we will be taking nominations for our club awards.

Our club awards have been running for the last 2 years, but last year saw for the first time the incorporation of a Perpetual Award & specialised Jeep trophies. Again this is a great opportunity for us as a club to celebrate our achievements, events & even humorous happenings we have experienced throughout the year.



Our awards consist of the following categories "Club Person of the Year, Best Trip/Event Leader, Multimedia Post of the Year & 4 Recovery Awards". Along with the trophies each award winner was also presented with a club certificate & last year also received a \$100 gift voucher from Seers Workwear or a \$50 gift voucher from Jeep City.

Past award winners include Paul Hannelly & Kevin Rourke for the 2014 & 2013 (respectively) Club Person of the Year award, 2014 Best Trip/Event Leader Marek Bilski, 2014 Recovery awards going to Lyn Little, Troy Rollan, David Erwin & PJ Blayney & of course the award that gained the most attention for going viral & was prominently displayed in Australia multimedia circles was the 2014 Facebook Posting of the year going to Peter Little. Nomination forms will be available at our next meeting & I really want to encourage everyone to get involved & submit a nomination, help celebrate our club & each other!

Remember a club is only as good as its members involvement!
Regards Paul.





2015 Club Awards Categories

- Club Person of the Year
- Best Trip/Event Leader
- Multimedia Post of the Year
- 4 Recovery Awards



Club Happenings...

Club General Meetings...

- Monday 9th November General Meeting, plus "Hema Maps" presentation.

(All meetings are held at Eastlake Football Club, 3 Oxley St, Manuka, at 7pm.)

Other Events...

- 4th -6th of December "Club Christmas Party" Camping at Bungendore showgrounds, toilets, hot showers, powered sites, suitable day drives for all jeeps on the Saturday, Club provided BBQ with salad & drinks on Saturday night, RSVP a must via Face book site invite or email the president@actjeepraction.com

**Please note the above dates are subject to change, please check general meeting minutes, Face book & future newsletters for up- dates. Inclusion of additional events & info will be updated as soon as possible.*

Supercheap Bathurst 1000, SJC Driver Parade Lap, by Paul Simmons

Backing onto the Jeep Jambo event, the following weekend after Jambo saw the Supercheap Bathurst 1000 race take place. ACTJeepTrAction members with a Softop Wrangler were invited to participate with the Sydney Jeep Club members in providing their Jeeps to be used in the drivers parade lap along with receiving free entry into the pits, paddocks & VIP parking areas. Andrew Slattery & myself were able to make the day trip.

After meeting up just outside Hall at 3am we made our way up to Bathurst via Crookwell, Trunkey & Tuena. We had both blinged up our Jeeps in preparation for the day not expecting 20kms of gravel roadworks, which covered our jeeps with a thick film of dust. Not to mention several encounters with wildlife with Andrew experiencing 2 Kangaroos & 1 Wombat running into him & a Bat flying into His Jeep & 1 Kangaroo also running into me as well.

After arriving in Bathurst we fueled up & proceeded to find a car wash to re-clean our Jeeps. To our surprise we found the best ever carwash as it used hot water! The carwash was conveniently located next to a McDonalds restaurant so we popped in for a quick bite & coffee before making our way to the rally point. Close to fifty Jeeps were rallied up & ready to go & the convoy made quite a site when lead into Mt Panorama race circuit. Officials cued us & briefed us on what to expect while our Jeeps were labelled up the drivers we would receive. Andrew got the Enforcer, Russell Ingall & Jack Perkins, from HRT while I had Jason Bright & Andrew Jones from Team BOC. Some other Jeepers didn't have drivers but promotional models or sponsor guests instead.



Setting out on the drivers parade lap gave all the Jeep drivers a chance to interact with their drivers & in some instances it was interesting to hear their thoughts while they talked shop on each part of the track or how they handled some Aussie larrikin comments from the spectators. We were very lucky to avoid heavy showers on the parade lap as the clod cover was dark over the mountain & pit lane, in fact we only experienced a few drops coming back into pit lane.

After dropping the drivers off in front of their team pits we were then allowed to park our cars in VIP style & wander around the course courtesy of complimentary pit & paddock passes. The last time I was a Bathurst was the year when the Caltex Chase was first implemented, some 20 odd years ago. Hence the infrastructure around venue had significantly improved & the crowds were so dense & vocal! Even the camping areas around the venue were wall to wall thick with caravans, tents & makeshift accommodation sites. Andrew & myself made the decision to leave a bit earlier to ensure we avoided the traffic hassles & the cues just to get lunch & head back to Canberra via Blayney & Cowra. This was a good decision as we also avoided the rain & were able to get a race update over lunch at the Blayney hotel! Our day was a great experience & hopefully we will get the opportunity to be part on another one in the future. Thankyou SJC!



The "Cheap Cherokee" Cape York Adventure, by Tricia Binns

We made our journey from Canberra to the "Northern Most Tip" of Australia's mainland through the Cape York Peninsula. Along the way we took on the infamous and challenging OTT 4WD route. We heard this route claims many cars each year, so there was a lot of anticipation in the lead up to this adventure!



We arrived at Bramwell Junction and prepared our vehicle for the demanding tracks which lay ahead of us. We didn't realize how much fun we were in for and how every crossing had its own distinctive look. We negotiated our way through each crossing while checking the depths and many hidden



Bramwell Junction

We came across the Famous Gun Shot Creek and after assessing the original entry we decided to take the next entry. After successfully making it through, we were on route to "Nolan's Brook" the end of all crossings!



Gun Shot Creek

Along the way we stopped off at Fruit Bat Falls for a dip in the crystal clear water! We came across Canal Creek which is only a couple of 100 hundred metres on from Elliot/Twin/Indian Head Falls (great swimming holes). We camped there that night on the track as it was the only spot left.



Elliot Falls

Well here we were at Nolan's, "hmmmmm", time to walk in and check the depth. Which line do we take? After wading through the murky water we decided that staying to the right hand side of the brook would be our best shot. "Success"what an accomplishment! How rewarding, how exciting, how exhilarating..... We did it ! "Hi 5"!!!



Yay we made it!

Finally out of the OTT and onward to "The Tip".....with horrible corrugations to contend with, the "Cheap Cherokee" soldiered on and got us to the "Northern Most Tip" of Australia's mainland!

David & Tricia Binns.



Nolan's Brook



Nolan's Brook



Nolan's Brook



Nolan's Brook

Jeep Action subscribers are invited to attend

CAMP COFFS 2016

Nana Glen Sports and Equestrian Centre

- AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST ANNUAL JEEP EVENT
- FIVE DAYS OF JEEP FUN
- ON-SITE CATERING
- NIGHTLY TRIP MEETINGS AND PRIZES
- GRADED TRIPS TO SUIT ALL JEEPS

REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!

Pricing:	Until December 31	\$95
	Jan 1 – Feb 29	\$110
	March 1 – March 23	\$125

Children (16 years and under) Free

Registrations available at www.jeepaction.com.au

camp
JEEP ACTION MAGAZINE
COFFS
EASTER 2016
THURSDAY 24TH MARCH
TO TUESDAY 29TH MARCH

Camp Coffs 2016 Programme

Thursday 24th March	Camp open. Arrive, set up, meet and greet
Friday 25th	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Saturday 26th	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Sunday 27th	Trips – Placid, Moderate, Moderate +, Hard
Monday 28th	Group Activities
Tuesday 29th	Camp closes – depart

Showers and toilets on site. No powered sites, generators OK

Club Schedule of Events 2016 - DRAFT

Date	Day	Event Details	Organiser
Jan TBA	Sat – Sun	Club Trip – Yawal Trip Details TBA	Paul Simmons
30 th – 31 st Jan	Sat – Sun	Club Stall - Queanbeyan 4WD Spectacular	Club Committee
Feb Date TBA	Sat	Club Sponsor Event - "Show n Shine", BBQ, Prizes- Rolfe Jeep	Club Committee
8 th Feb	Monday	Club Social BBQ – Bilski's Residence – 6pm	Club Committee
19 th – 21 st Feb	Fri - Sun	Club Weekend Trip – Post man's track, Candello/Nimmitabelregion	Troy Rollan
March Date TBA	TBA	Club Day Trip – Trip Details TBA	Marek Bilski
14 th March	Monday	Club General meeting + Annual General meeting – Eastlake Football club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
24 th – 29 th March	Thur - Tues	Club Trip - Camp Coffs Event (Nana Glen) Easter Time.	Club Committee
School Holidays Term 1, 11 th – 22 nd April. ANZAC Day Monday 25 th April			
April Date TBA	TBA	Club Day Trip – Trip Details TBA	Dan/Dave
11 th April	Monday	Club Social BBQ – Newman's Residence – 6pm	Club Committee
May Date TBA	TBA	Club Day Trip – Trip Details TBA	Paul Hannelly
9 th May	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
11 th – 13 th June	Fri - Mon	Classic not Plastic – Nabcac Showground Great Lakes	JC NSW
20 th June	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
School Holidays Term 2, 4 th – 15 th July			
July Date TBA	TBA	Club Day Trip – Trip Details TBA	Andrew Slattery
18 th July	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
Aug Date TBA	TBA	Club Day Trip – Trip Details TBA	Paul Simmons
8 th August	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
12 th September	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
School Holidays Term 3, 26 th September – 7 th October			
1 st - 2 nd October	Sat - Sun	Club Annual Trip - Jeep 75 th Anniversary Show - Victoria	Paul Simmons
10 th October	Monday	General meeting - Eastlake club. (7pm - Oxley St, Manuka).	Club Committee
14 th November	Monday	Club Social BBQ – Rollan's Residence – 6pm	Club Committee
4 th December	Sunday	Christmas party – Venue details TBC.	Club Committee
School Holidays Term 4, 19 th December – 27 th January			

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Myths have always been around, ranging from sacred cultural narratives to traditional stories & popular misunderstandings. Even in the world of solar & batteries, myths still exist & are believed to be true. Let's bust some of the most common solar and battery myths today.

Myth: Solar panels don't work on partly cloudy days

Although typically solar panels generate more electricity on sunny days & with direct sunlight, they still operate efficiently when the weather is less fortunate. Generally, solar panels can produce approximately 10 to 25 percent of their normal capacity on cloudy days, depending on the type of solar. On partly cloudy days, solar can be affected by a phenomenon known as 'the edge of cloud effect'. This term refers to the sunlight being magnified by the edges of the clouds which can result in a temporary boost of the solar system's power output, busting this myth. In case you're still not convinced, have you ever spent a day outside on partly cloudy weather thinking you wouldn't get sunburned? This ultraviolet light – which solar panels use to produce electricity – is still able to reach us through the clouds.

Myth: Solar panels require high maintenance

Generally, it is suggested to hose off the panels approximately once a year, & to ensure surrounding trees are cut back to prevent the solar panels from being overshadowed. Also, check there are no leaves, or bird droppings covering the panels as these may impact the amount of sunlight reaching your panels. Solar panels mounted to the ground may accumulate more dirt & dust, & may need more maintenance than other panels. To clean your panels, you can use: warm water, some non-abrasive liquid, Windex, a brush, or a high pressure hose. Basically, it's the same method as cleaning your windows. If you prefer, you can also contact specialist window cleaning companies to clean your panels for you.

Myth: Monocrystalline solar cells are better than polycrystalline cells

Monocrystalline solar cells have been superior for many years due to their higher peak efficiency & their availability. However, stating monocrystalline solar cells are better than polycrystalline is incorrect. Let's briefly compare both types of cells. According to some, monocrystalline solar cells have a more aesthetic appearance due to their black cells. Typically, one square meter will generate approximately 190W which makes the panels slightly smaller than polycrystalline panels. Monocrystalline cells operate well (& often better than polycrystalline cells) under perfect weather conditions: during clear, sunny days.

Polycrystalline solar cells have a blue colour with some patches that are lighter than others (due to multiple crystals) although their look has become gradually darker. They also reveal a better performance on days with less ideal sunlight & higher temperatures. Thanks to their multiple crystals, polycrystalline cells can produce more electricity as sunlight is reflected within the crystals. One square meter of polycrystalline cells generates about 180W which results in slightly bigger solar panels to allow an equal amount of wattage compared to the monocrystalline cells.

Myth: Batteries will discharge when placed or stored on a concrete floor

This common belief results from an ancient fact. The first batteries were made of glass cells enclosed in wooden boxes, and placing them on a concrete floor would cause the wood to swell and damage the battery cells. Later, those boxes were replaced by porous rubber consisting of carbon. When these batteries were stored on a concrete floor, the combination of the carbon and concrete could create an electrical current between the cells causing the battery to discharge. However, modern batteries are made from harder materials, such as polypropylene, and seal better. Therefore, you do not need to worry about placing your batteries on a concrete floor. In fact, these days it is recommended to store them as such. Not only are ground temperatures cooler, concrete also provides an extra thermal mass protecting them against any temperature shifts in the battery.

Myth: Storing my deep cycle batteries for a short time will discharge them

Typically, storing deep cycle batteries for a month will discharge them with only a small percentage (AGM 1-3 percent), so putting them away for a short time will not discharge them. However, all batteries self-discharge. The rate of their self-discharge depends on the temperature they're exposed to: the higher the temperature, the faster your battery will self-discharge. When storing your AGM batteries at 25°C, a freshening charge is recommended after approximately six months.

Myth: AGM deep cycle batteries need to be drained before charging them

This belief results from the battery memory effect which occurs in nickel cadmium (NiCd) & nickel-metal hydride (NiMH) rechargeable batteries. The term 'battery memory' refers to the steady loss of maximum energy capacity whenever a battery is being charged after a partial discharge; the battery only remembers the smaller capacity. In other words, batteries with a battery memory should be drained completely on a regular basis to maintain their full capacity. However, AGM batteries do not have a battery memory & as such it is not necessary to drain them. In fact, the less you drain the battery each time before recharging, the longer the battery will last.

Club Sponsors...

Rolfe Motors

Jeep



Be Part Of The Legend





ACTJeepTrAction

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